IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No: 49931-0081

Applicant(s): Edward W. MERRILL et al. Confirmation No.: 6751

App. No.: 10/696,362 Examiner: S. Berman

Filing Date: October 30, 2003 Group Art Unit: 1711

Title: RADIATION AND MELT TREATED ULTRA HIGH MOLECULAR

WEIGHT POLYETHYLENE PROSTHETIC DEVICES

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

United States Patent and Trademark Office Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Applicants herein respond to Office Action mailed December 12, 2006 (Paper No. 20061130). Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments to the application and request reconsideration of the rejections in view of the following remarks.

Applicants petition for a three-month extension of time, as well as any other needed extensions, and provide the requisite fee herewith. Please debit any underpayments, or credit any overpayments, to firm deposit account no. 50-3840.